



A Newsletter for Recycling Coordinators

Business recycling will be focus at workshop set for August 15-16

By Karen Owens

The importance - both environmentally and economically - of having businesses adopt waste reduction, recycling and buy recycled practices will be the centerpiece of the 2002 Recycling Coordinators' Workshop.

The workshop, which is set for August 15-16 at the Horry County Solid Waste Authority (SWA) Complex in Conway, is being sponsored by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office), the Horry County SWA and the Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project.

About 40 percent of the waste going into the state's landfills comes from the commercial sector. Encouraging businesses to implement waste reduction, recycling and buy recycled programs is critical to South Carolina's progress in reaching its 35 percent recycling rate and its waste reduction goal of 3.5 pounds per person per day by 2005.

The Business Recycling Assistance Program (B-RAP), a partnership of the Office, DHEC's Center for Waste Minimization and the Recycling Market Development Advisory Council (RMDAC), will provide an overview of how recycling coordinators (RCs) can assist business and industry in their communities by establishing these programs. Workshop participants also will receive a comprehensive manual with South Carolina-specific information on implementing waste reduction and recycling programs.

As part of the business recycling emphasis, Brenda Barger with Mecklenburg County, N.C., will share her county's experience in passing an ordinance that requires businesses to recycle. She will review what leaders in her community did to get the ordinance passed as well as discuss the challenges of enforcing the new law.

The agenda also features hands-on activities as well as in-depth presentations and a round-table

discussion on the existing business recycling efforts and opportunities in the state. Bob Britts with the Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project will speak during lunch on Friday about his organization's solid waste success stories.

In addition to the business recycling focus, RCs will have an opportunity to learn about the newest programs and services being offered by DHEC and several programs offered by Horry County. Staff also will be present to answer questions about the solid waste management reporting forms. The workshop will begin with a tour of the Horry County landfill and its waste-to-energy facility which is operated in partnership with Santee Cooper.

Workshop registration forms were mailed by the Office in May. Completed forms may be faxed to (803) 896-4001. If you have any questions about the event, call Sharon Thompson at 1-800-768-7348 or by e-mail at thompsr@dhec.state.sc.us. Forty rooms are being held until July 15 at the Best Western in Conway. Mention that you are with the Recycling Coordinators' Workshop for the discounted rate. For reservations, call 1-800-WESTERN or (843) 234-1678.

Karen Owens is project manager for the Business Recycling Assistance Program.

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EDITOR'S FOCUS

"They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself."

- Andy Warhol

And that is just what DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office) has done. After three-and-a-half years of publishing the "Recycle South Carolina Magazine," the Office has decided to make a change. That is, a return to the format we originally started in the summer of 1992 – a newsletter that specifically targets recycling coordinators (RCs) throughout the state, whether they are local governments, college and university, or business. We are going back to a newsletter that will focus on the needs and interests of RCs – articles describing a colleague's reduction and recycling programs, the latest materials available, calendars, Carolina Recycling Association updates and much more. And with this new format, comes other changes as well.

When the magazine concept first evolved late in 1997, it was because we felt there was enough information out there to fill 24 pages on a quarterly basis. And while that is still true, we also recognize that our magazine was reaching out to three different audiences; teachers who had been trained on the Office's environmental curriculum supplement, recycling coordinators and businesses and industry. And it became more and more clear that there were too many different subjects being covered under one publication.



Rosinski

With that in mind, the Office has decided to publish different newsletters. The first will target you – recycling coordinators. The second will focus on reaching out to teachers – highlighting the various outreach programs DHEC has to offer them. And finally, with the successful start to the Business Recycling Assistance Program, a newsletter is being developed that will target business leaders across the state, encouraging waste reduction, recycling and buy recycled practices within their plants and office buildings. Recycling coordinators can request to be added to the mailing lists for the other newsletters by calling 1-800-768-7348.

In this first issue, we remind all of you about the upcoming workshop to help you reach out to local business and industry, the very groups that significantly impact our solid waste. We also hear from Oconee County about their recent HHM collection day. And of course, what you will see every month – a calendar of events, including "Action for a cleaner tomorrow" and Green Driver trainings, which you are encouraged to attend, Carolina Recycling Association updates as well as staff changes in South Carolina's recycling community.

And while this effort no doubt will see a few more adjustments before it is all said and done, the Office hopes you will like what you see.

Elizabeth V. Rosinski
Elizabeth Rosinski, Editor

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SAVE NATURAL RESOURCES
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**Office of Solid Waste
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www.scdhec.net/recycle

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RECYCLED content paper.

New report details state agency, college, university recycling efforts

By Pam Bergstrand

State agencies, colleges and universities recycled nearly 100,000 tons of material in the first six months of 2001, according to a new report compiled by DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office).

In addition, state agencies reported that about 15 percent of their total purchases were for recycled content products while colleges and universities reported about 17 percent.

The information was compiled for the first "State Agencies/Colleges and Universities Recycling, Waste Reduction and Buy Recycled 2001 Annual Report." This

report and the submission of recycling information from state government is required by amendments made to the S.C. Solid Waste Policy and Management Act of 1991 in October 2000.

Subsequent annual reports will reflect information for the entire fiscal year, July 1 through June 30.

According to the report, state agencies recycled 97,059 tons of material while colleges and universities recycled a total of 2,492 tons.

"This report gives us a way to begin measuring recycling by state agencies and colleges and universities," said William W. Culler, director of the Office. "I do want to reinforce that the numbers reflect only the last six months of the fiscal year. We expect state government to set an example for others to follow and certainly hope the recycling totals improve each year."

All state agencies, colleges and universities were sent a one-page survey to complete regarding their waste management practices. Overall, 56 state agencies and 24 colleges and universities reported.

Of all those reporting, 41 state agencies and 22 colleges and universities reported waste reduction practices. The survey only requested types of waste reduction practices and not any measurement of the activity.

The report form also requested the percentage of recycled content products purchased compared to total (dollar) amount of total purchases. Forty-four state agencies and 21 colleges and universities responded to this question. On average, state agencies reported that their total buy recycled purchases was 15 percent of their total dollar purchases amount and the colleges and universities averaged 17 percent recycled content purchases of their total dollar expenditures.

The report also recommended that more statewide contracts be developed for recycled content products and that real estate lease agreements include waste reduction and recycling in housekeeping and maintenance specifications.

Copies of the "Recycling, Waste Reduction and Buy Recycled 2001 Annual Report" are available on the Office's Web site at www.scdhec.net/recycle or by calling 1-800-768-7348.

Pam Bergstrand is the project manager for this report.

Programs announce recycling staff changes

Kenny McKenzie, recycling coordinator for Hampton County, has retired. His replacement is **Dobie Hiers**. Hiers worked with McKenzie and now has taken over the recycling responsibilities. Hiers has worked with the county for 10 years.

Ray Faulkenberry, recycling coordinator for Lancaster County, has broken his leg and currently is on medical leave. Public Works Director **Carroll Craig** is overseeing Faulkenberry's duties.

Bobby Banks, Richland County recycling coordinator, has a new telephone number. It is (803) 576-2445.

Dottie Landry has resigned from the Recycling Market Development Advisory Council at the Department of Commerce. **Karen Owens**, formerly with DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling, has replaced her. Owens also will serve as the Business Recycling Assistance Program manager. Her number is (803) 737-0239.

Ann Terry has retired from the City of Rock Hill Clean & Green. **Jennifer McAdams** has assumed her duties and can be reached at (803) 329-7027.

S.C. prepares for America Recycles Day

By Holly Storey

S.C. Governor Jim Hodges recently agreed to serve as the honorary chairman for this year's America Recycles Day in South Carolina Statewide Steering Committee.

"We are honored to have Governor Hodges on board," said William W. Culler, director of DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office) and chairman of the committee. "We look forward to working with Governor Hodges to increase awareness in South Carolina about the importance of recycling."

In addition, the new slogan for the 2002 campaign is "Make Every Day America Recycles Day." While the slogan has changed, the date, November 15, remains the same. For the sixth consecutive year, South Carolina will participate in America Recycles Day (ARD) by coordinating events, collecting challenge cards and promoting three essay contests.

The S.C. Soft Drink Association will sponsor the challenge card drawing again this year. The winning challenge card drawn will receive \$1,000.

International Paper once again is sponsoring the essay contests to award Recycling Family, School and Teacher of the Year. The winner of the Recycling Family of the Year contest will receive \$1,000, while the Recycling School of the Year winner will receive 100,000 sheets of recycled content copy paper and \$1,000 for educational materials. The Recycling Teacher of the Year contest winner will receive \$1,000 to attend the National Recycling Coalition's 2003 Symposium in Baltimore, Maryland.

All recycling coordinators will receive a planning guide which provides ideas for coordinating events as well as a list of ARD promotional items, including bookmarks, pencils and notepads. Recycling coordinators are encouraged to participate in ARD activities by distributing cards or hosting an event.

If you have any questions, please call Holly Storey at (803) 896-4233 or e-mail at storeyhl@dhec.state.sc.us.

Holly Storey is co-chairperson of the America Recycles Day in South Carolina Steering Committee and also serves on the National America Recycles Day Board of Directors.



***Pictured:** A huge American flag made from aluminum cans, created as part of America Recycle Day activities in Aiken, was recognized in a national contest sponsored by Waste Management/Recycle America. The project, a partnership between the City of Aiken and the Savannah River Site's Pollution Prevention Team, received \$3,000 as a regional prize winner. The flag took two days to complete and measured 60 X 100 feet.*

Recycling Office seeks award nominations

DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office) is asking for nominations for its eighth annual Recycle Guys Awards Program set for **January 24, 2003** in Columbia at Seawell's near the State Fairgrounds.

Each year the Office honors the top waste reduction and recycling programs, projects and people in South Carolina for outstanding achievement in a variety of categories.

Nomination forms were mailed in May, and additional copies are available on-line at www.scdhec.net/recycle or by calling 1-800-768-7348. Applicants are encouraged to nominate themselves or their programs. Entries should be returned to the Office by **November 1**.

Partnership announces GROW gardening, composting program

By Joan Williams

Whether you measure by weight or volume, compostable material makes up about half (or more) of the waste buried in landfills in South Carolina. If residents at home and local governments made a concerted effort to compost yard waste, food scraps and non-recyclable paper, landfills would last much longer and this wasted material could be put to productive use as a soil amendment.

With this in mind, DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office) has formed a partnership with Clemson Extension Service, Sumter County Master Gardeners, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Conservation Service, the S.C. Department of Natural Resources and the S.C. Conservation District Employees Association to promote conservation and green gardening techniques. The steering committee named the program GROW (Gardening and Recycling Organics Wisely) to encompass the facets of the program: waste reduction through composting; lower gardening maintenance by appropriate planting and improved soil fertility; less use of toxic products; and grasscycling.

GROW will be comprehensive in its approach to managing organics. Backyard composting, large-scale composting and green gardening all fall within the scope of the program. Education and training through publications and workshops will be the objective of this partnership. Currently, the steering committee is preparing materials and planning a "train-the-trainer" workshop on the



GROW topics directly related to green gardening. The target trainers are horticulturists, Master Gardeners, Extension Service agents and others who have been professionally trained on topics similar to GROW but who need orientation to this specific program. After this training, they will form the core leadership to take the GROW green gardening program to all counties in South Carolina. Cooperating with local recycling coordinators, they will lead workshops to educate the public about what it means to GROW.

Recycling coordinators who are planning backyard composting bin sales may want to coordinate with a GROW trainer. Reducing waste through composting is a worthy goal by itself. It is an even more persuasive goal when it is linked to improving the soil so that gardens are more beautiful, productive, require less work and less watering through appropriate planting.

The focus of GROW is not limited to efforts at the individual level. Encouraging a professional approach to large-scale composting facilities is included as well. Recently, GROW

Technical Assistance Guides were distributed to registered composting/wood chipping facilities, recycling coordinators and others. "Getting into the Large-Scaled Composting Business" is an overview of the composting process;

"Large-Scale Composting: Getting in the Business – Day-to-Day Operations" addresses regulatory and other concerns. If you would like to receive a copy, call 1-800-768-7348 or download it from the Web at www.scdhec.net/recycle.

For more information about GROW, please contact Joan Williams at (803) 896-4234 or williajf@dhec.state.sc.us.

Joan Williams is the GROW program coordinator for DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling.



Above: GROW provides a series of technical assistance guides to program participants.

Oconee County holds HHM collection event

By Melissa Grant

About 22,575 pounds of household hazardous materials (HHM) and 2,625 pounds of latex paint were collected during Oconee County's second annual HHM collection event on April 27 at Walhalla Middle School. The event was organized as part of the county's Earth Day celebration.

About 270 residents delivered truckloads of old cleaning supplies, pesticides, antifreeze and other car fluids, gasoline mixtures and paint. Latex paint, the most collected commodity, was mixed on site by county employees and volunteers. The mixed paint was collected in salvaged paint cans and redistributed to residents at the county's material recovery facility.

Many recycling coordinators have hosted HHM collection days successfully, but what made this event unique?

Oconee County's Solid Waste Department (SWD) co-hosted the event with its Emergency Preparedness Committee. Both groups met beforehand to ensure all details were arranged prior to the collection day. The committees, comprised of local industries, were

Below: Oconee County residents dropped-off more than 22,000 pounds of HHM and more than 2,500 pounds of latex paint during the one-day collection event on April 27.

able to raise \$4,000 to fund the collection day.

Oconee County's Hazardous Waste Planning Committee members also participated in the event by accepting specific tasks: organizing volunteers; ensuring emergency personnel would be present; updating advertising materials; assisting with site layout; and providing supplies.

Operational efficiencies also were improved in several ways:

- Traffic was well directed. Two lanes of traffic traveled through the collection area at the same time - one way in and another way out. The recycling drop-off area and the hazardous waste tent were located between the two lanes of traffic to expedite the collection process.
- A used oil tank was loaded on a trailer for the event rather than transporting individual containers to another location. Antifreeze recycling drums also were placed on the same trailer.
- Rechargeable batteries and pesticide containers were added to the event. The Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation and Clemson Extension provided free recycling of batteries and pesticide containers, respectively.

- Since paint is the most collected commodity, discarded five-gallon buckets were gathered over a period of time to collect and redistribute mixed paint. By reusing old ones, the number of new buckets purchased was reduced by half.
- Oconee County SWD provided an open-top container for garbage and another for cardboard so the contractor did not charge for this expense.
- SWD employees unloaded vehicles, reducing the number of personnel required from the contractor. Over-time hours were reduced by asking employees to take time off during the week.
- A press conference was held before Earth Day to generate media attention for the event. Newspaper articles about the press conference helped convey information to residents while eliminating the cost for printed advertisements. However, flyers distributed throughout the county required a minimal cost.

The contractor for Oconee County's HHM collection event was Ecoflo. The company can be reached at 1-800-999-6510 or (336) 855-7925.

Melissa Grant is the solid waste director for Oconee County.



CRA names new S.C. board members

By Jana White

The following South Carolinians have been elected to the Carolina Recycling Association (CRA) Board of Directors.

TED CAMPBELL, PRESIDENT

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Mark your calendars for the CRA's annual conference to be held March 18-21, 2003 in Greenville. Richard Chesley and Jana White are serving as co-chairs for the conference. Please contact them at 1-800-768-7348 with program ideas. Visit www.cra-recycle.org for the latest information.

Jana White is manager of DHEC's Recycling Grants Program.

RC Calendar: June–September 2002

June 21	Low Country Carolina Recycling Association Council Meeting
June 21	Summer Reading Club Celebration, Billy Jonas: Junkadelic Folk Music, 11 a.m., Children's Room at Richland County Library
June 22	Compost Bin Sale at Lowe's on Wade Hampton Blvd., Greer and on Roper Mountain Road, Greenville
June 22-25	National Youth Awards for Energy Achievement, Arlington, VA
June 25	"Action" Training, Loris, 9 a.m.
June 26	Energy 2 Learn Summer Workshop at Seawell's in Columbia
June 27	Paper Stock Dealers Summer Teacher Workshop, Columbia, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. (bring your own lunch)
July 9	"Action" Training, Laurens County, Joe R. Adair Outdoor Education Center, 1 p.m.
July 11	National America Recycles Day Board Meeting, New York
July 14-17	Earth Camp, Camp Long, Aiken
July 15	QUARTERLY GRANT REPORTS DUE
July 18	Solid Waste Authority Council Meeting, Clemson, ARTS Building, 10:30 a.m.
July 20-24	NEED Conference, Charleston
July 25	Midlands Carolina Recycling Association Council Meeting, Keep the Midland Beautiful, Columbia, 10 a.m.
August 3	Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Recycling Event, Charleston County Recycling Center, 9 a.m.
August 6	"Action" Training, Limestone Central Elementary School, 12:30 p.m.
August 7	"Action" Training, Holly Hill Elementary School, 9 a.m.
August 7	Waste Tire Committee Meeting, DHEC, Farrow Rd., Columbia, 10:30 a.m.
August 12	Carolina Recycling Association Board Meeting, Concord, NC, 10 a.m.
August 13	Horry County Solid Waste Authority Annual Environmental Awards Luncheon
August 15-16	Recycling Coordinators' Workshop, Conway
August 22	"Action" Training, North Greenville College, 1 p.m.
August 23	"Action" Training, Coastal Carolina University, 9 a.m.
August 23	Green Driver Project Presentation, Pelion High School
August 26	"Action" Training, S.C. State University, 1 p.m.
August 26	Midlands Carolina Recycling Association Council Meeting, Fort Jackson, Columbia, 1 p.m.
August 27	America Recycles Day in South Carolina Steering Committee Meeting, DHEC, Farrow Rd., Columbia, 10 a.m.
August 30	"SOUTH CAROLINA RECYCLES" ARTICLES DUE <i>Recycling coordinators are encouraged to submit information.</i>
September 3-6	Hazardous Materials Management Conference on Household, Universal and Small Business Waste, Dallas, TX
September 8-11	National Recycling Coalition Annual Congress, Austin, TX
September 16	FY02 GRANTS FINAL REIMBURSEMENT DUE, FINAL REPORTS DUE
September 19	"Action" Training, College of Charleston, 4 p.m.
September 20	"Action" Training, Charleston Southern University, 9 a.m.
September 23	"Action" Training, Blue Heron Nature Center, Jasper County, 9 a.m.

NOTE: Recycling coordinators are encouraged to attend "Action" trainings and Green Driver presentations that take place in their county. It is a good opportunity to network with teachers and students in your community. To learn more, call Angie Perry at 1-800-326-2630.

Office's Resource Center provides wide selection of recycling resources

DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling's (Office) Resource Center provides a variety of educational materials, posters, books, videos, technical assistance guides and other resources.

AVAILABLE PUBLICATIONS:

- "BioCycle"
- "C&D Recycler"
- "Environmental Building News"
- "EPA Reusable News"
- "E-Scrap News"
- "Governing"
- "Government Product News"
- "green@work"
- "MSW Management"
- "Public Works"
- "Recycled Product Guide"
- "Recycling Today"
- "Resource Recycling"
- "S.C. Environmental Compliance Update"
- "Scrap Tire News"
- "Solid Waste Report"
- "State Recycling Laws Update"
- "Waste Age"
- "Waste Age's Recycling Times"
- "Waste News"
- "Waste Week"

POSTERS:

- What is Energy?
- Recycle Plastic Bottles!
- Recycle Your Homework!
- America Recycles Day: Shopping with the Environment in Mind
- WANTED for Recycling (coming soon)
- 50 Ways to Protect South Carolina's Environment

"For Your Information" Fact Sheets also are available, covering a variety of recycling topics. Please call **1-800-768-7348** or visit our Web site at www.scdhec.net/recycle for more information.

1-800-768-7348 ● www.scdhec.net/recycle



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